

Marsh Stone House  
Route 46, McKean County,  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. Pa.-5105

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PA  
42-CROSBY,  
1-

*Reduced Copies of Historical Drawings*  
PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District No. 5-Pennsylvania

Historic American Buildings Survey  
J. Howard Hicks, District Officer  
124 East 10th Street, Erie, Pennsylvania

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MARSH-STONE HOUSE  
Route 46 south of Smethport, one mile from Crosby,  
McKean County, Pennsylvania

Owner  
W. E. Marsh.

Date of Erection  
1853.

Architect  
Robert Marsh.

Builder  
Robert Marsh.

Present Condition  
Fair.

Number of Stories  
One and a half.

Materials of Construction  
Split sandstone and white pine, inside varnished.

Other Existing Records  
Information and personal recollections furnished by  
Mrs. Elberta Alcott; drawings, photographs, personal  
inspection.

Additional Data  
Bibliography-

## MARSH-STONE HOUSE

Route 46 south of Smethport, one mile from Crosby,  
McKean County, Pennsylvania

The Marsh-Stone House is located in a pleasant valley near Crosby and Smethport, McKean County, Pennsylvania. It immediately suggests the small cottages of rural England, and perhaps was patterned after them as the builder was Robert Marsh, an Englishman who came to America sometime before 1852 when the house had been built. Robert Marsh must have spent an anxious time when completing the house for just exactly one day after he and his wife moved into the house their son William was born. As it was, the house was not entirely finished when they moved in, and it was November and cold among the hills that are on every side. Mr. and Mrs. Marsh passed to the great beyond and the son who was the first child born in the house passed away in 1914 aged something over sixty.

Mr. William Marsh and wife had seven children, three sons and four daughters. The Marsh Stone is now owned by Mr. W. E. Marsh one of the sons who lives in it with his sister Mrs. Alberta Alcott and her family.

A porch was added during the years to the front of the house which detracts somewhat from the picture of an English cottage, but the place is in a fair condition and interesting as a type. The materials used in the construction are white pine and split sandstone.

The length of the Marsh Stone House is 40'-2" outside over all by 28'-0" width and 21'-6" grade to ridge height. The house is 1-1/2 stories. The front elevation faces the west and has three windows and one door, spaced nearly equal. Three stone steps lead to the front entrance which has a three paneled wooden door with two extra upper panels of glass. The panels are raised on the outside and plain on the inside, a feature which is applied to all of the doors of the house. The windows are two sash windows with two lights of glass to each sash. The rear or door to the east opens into the woodshed, erected recently and of a temporary character. A cellar entrance is to the north of the kitchen door in the woodshed, with stone steps and stone side walls. The north and south elevations are exactly alike and have two windows on the first floor and two on the second, directly above each other and in line. The caps of the upper windows are cut into the cornice. They are of wood while the sills and caps of the first floor windows are of tooled stone. There is a stone chimney on each gable end, the plain wood cornice is cut by the chimneys, or the cornice may be said to extend into the chimneys.

The floor plan has a parlor, living room, dining room, kitchen and bed-room. The flooring is of random width boards. There is a fireplace in the parlor and formerly another one was located at the south end of the building but it has been covered by cupboards. The stairs from the first floor lead out of the kitchen

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to the two bedrooms, small hall and storage space on the second floor. The roof has a recent paper roof over wooden shingles.

A very unusual feature is a tie beam between one of the bedrooms and small hall, laid on the floor line and of 8" x 10" dimension. A step leads up to the beam, and another step leads down from it.

No especial remarkable history connected with this family, except that they were pioneers in the valley.

*Annie Scott Baxter*

Approved

*Howard Shipe*  
District Officer  
Dec. 30 - 1936.

*Rec. Jan. 12 '37 TLW*